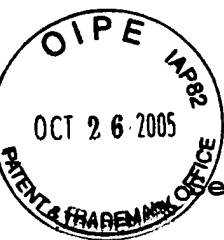


AF / JFW



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 09/701,430

Confirmation No.: 9774

In re Application of:

Group Art Unit: 1764

Toshio YAMADA et al.

Examiner: Hien Thi Tran

Filed: November 29, 2000

For: CANNING STRUCTURE AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING CATALYTIC
CONVERTER USING THE CANNING STRUCTURE

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants request reconsideration of the rejections in the Office Action mailed August 9, 2005, in light of the following remarks.

Applicants acknowledge that the previous rejections have been withdrawn, and submit, with respect, that the claims are patentable over the new rejections discussed herein.

The rejection of claims 1 and 5 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over Locker et al. EP '133 in view of Close et al. '865 in view of Machida et al. '079 is respectfully traversed. Initially, it is believed that Machida et al. '079 is not part of the rejection, and the arguments below are presented based on that assumption.